



Commission on Teacher Credentialing

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Office of the Executive Director

July 8, 2011

Jonathan Veitch, President
Occidental College
1600 Campus Road
Los Angeles, CA 90041

Dear President Veitch:

On June 23, 2011, the Committee on Accreditation, on behalf of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, assigned the status of *Accreditation with Probationary Stipulations* to Occidental College and all of its credential programs. Subsequent to this action, Occidental College submitted a request to withdraw its Multiple and Single Subject credential program. The COA granted that request in a separate action.

As a result of the decision of Probationary Stipulations and the subsequent withdrawal, Occidental College must not:

- Accept new credential candidates into the Multiple and Single Subject credential programs beyond those admitted on or before June 23, 2011 and as included in the list provided to the Commission on that date.
- Propose new programs of professional preparation or expand existing programs.

In addition, the institution is required to:

- Submit an action plan by July 15, 2011, describing the institution's plan to ensure that all remaining students are provided with a quality program that meets state requirements. The action plan will be presented to the COA at its August 2011 meeting.
- Submit follow-up reports, every 60 days following submission of the action plan. These follow up reports will document the steps taken to ensure appropriate progress is being made to ensure that all remaining students are provided with a quality program that meets state requirements.
- That a revisit take place in the fall 2011, to ensure that sufficient progress is being made and that all remaining students are provided with a quality program that meets state requirements.

Further, the institution is required to:

- Notify all current candidates in writing of the action taken by the COA and the institution's decision to withdraw its program, by no later than June 30, 2011.
- The notification must include the accreditation decision of the COA, the decision of the institution to withdraw the programs, that all candidates admitted or enrolled in the

program on or before June 23, 2011 will have the opportunity to complete their credential program by no later than June 30, 2012, that the Committee on Accreditation will closely monitor operations in 2011-12 to ensure that all enrolled students receive a quality program meeting state requirements, and that, at any point, if the COA determines that Occidental credential programs are not providing a quality program to the credential candidates, it could revoke the ability of Occidental College to recommend for a California teaching credential. Should that occur, Occidental College will be responsible for ensuring that all remaining candidates are provided alternative opportunities for completing credential requirements.

It is important to note that as of June 30, 2012 the programs may no longer operate and the institution may no longer recommend candidates for a credential. It is also important to note that, if at any time, the COA does not believe that a quality program meeting state requirements is being provided to the enrolled students, it may act to deny accreditation to Occidental College.

In addition, pursuant to Chapter 3 of the *Accreditation Handbook*, any institution withdrawing its programs must wait at least two years from the date in which candidates were no longer admitted to the program to be reaccruited. In addition, please note that in order to be allowed to offer a new credential program at that time, the institution must first reapply for initial institutional approval.

As discussed, the Commission staff will work closely over the next few months to ensure that all candidates enrolled in the Occidental College credential programs are provided with a quality program that meets state requirements. Both Gay Roby, Commission Consultant, and Terry Janicki, Administrator, have been assigned to work closely with your credential programs over the next year.

Thank you for your cooperation on this matter. Should you or your staff have any questions relating to this action, you may address them to Cheryl Hickey, Administrator of Accreditation, at (916) 322-0695.

Sincerely,



Teri Clark
Acting Executive Director
Director, Division of Professional Services

cc: Jorge G. Gonzalez, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean
Ron Solorzano, Professor and Chair, Department of Education
Ting Sun, Chair, Commission on Teacher Credentialing

TC/CH/ta